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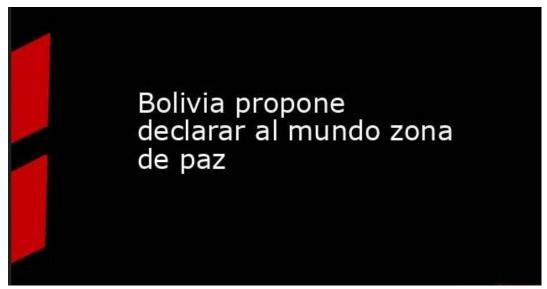
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Andres Figueroa Cornejo 24.09.2022

## Bolivia: President Arce proposes at the UN to overcome capitalism to face threats that threaten humanity

In the case of Bolivia, we do not and will not accept impositions from the International Monetary Fund. We are guided by the civilizational principle of Living Well that emerges from our original indigenous roots."



The President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia participated in the 77th Session of the United Nations, where he said that this forum "must allow us to continue strengthening multilateralism to face more effectively, the new and old threats that lurk in humanity."

On the occasion, Arce declared that, "today we are facing a multiple and systematic capitalist crisis that increasingly puts at risk the life of humanity and the planet", that it is necessary to identify "the origin of a system that reproduces the domination, exploitation and exclusion of the great majority, that generates concentration of wealth in a few hands and that prioritizes the production and reproduction of capital before production and reproduction. of life."



The president made his proposals in an enumerated way to the UN assembly:

1. Declare the world a zone of peace. To privilege dialogue among nations through the diplomacy of peoples. Multilateralism is the only mechanism that represents a system of respect among States, regardless of their economic or military power.

2. Replace the construction of weapons of mass destruction with a just compensation to the world's poor. Today, 9 countries gather 9,705 nuclear warheads; 9,440 of them are in military reserves, ready to be used.

3. Against the commodification of health, "we propose universal health systems."

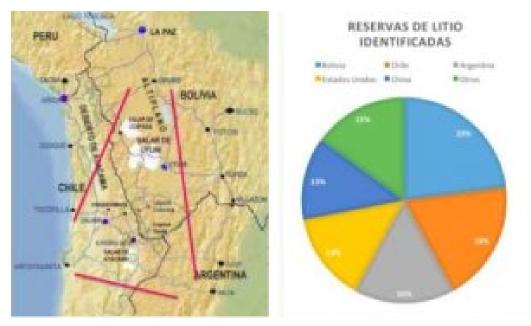
4. Global program of food sovereignty in harmony with Mother Earth. Another manifestation of the crisis of capitalism is the food crisis. In 2021 alone, a total of 828 million people were victims of hunger.

5. Rebuild the productive capacities of the countries of the periphery, hit by the irrepressible logic of concentrating capital. "That is why today we must be governed by the principles of solidarity, complementarity and respect for the self-determination of peoples. External debt must be alleviated so that our countries can sovereignly implement comprehensive and sustainable social policies. We must change the conditions of exchange that today continue to benefit only the north. In the case of Bolivia, we do not and will not accept impositions from the International Monetary Fund. We are guided by the civilizational principle of Living Well that emerges from our original indigenous roots."

6. The climate crisis requires responsibility, solidarity, harmony between human beings and nature, and not usury. Countries that have the capacity to change their production and

consumption patterns do not have the political will to do so. "To reverse the climate crisis we must resolve the contradictions of the capitalist model."

7. The nationalization of lithium for the benefit of the peoples and the energy transition. "We do not want colonialism and capitalist development to be used for the benefit of a few and the hunger of peoples, like other riches. We reject all kinds of interference and destabilization of democracy in our country with the desire to control lithium. As stated by the commander of the US Southern Command a couple of months ago, the so-called <u>'lithium triangle'</u>, located in South America, made up of Bolivia, Argentina and <u>Chile</u>, is in the sights of the US. But we are not chessboard chips; we are peoples who work every day to get ahead and we have every right to decide on our natural resources."



The Lithium Triangle Identified Lithium Reserves

8. From nationalization to regionalization of the fight against drug trafficking. "Continuing to emphasize supply rather than demand has only served as a pretext for militarization and for the international deployment of the war on drugs. This affects the peasants of the south and leaves in absolute impunity the criminal groups, never identified in the countries that consume massively."

9. Strengthen international mechanisms for preferential treatment for landlocked countries. "All Mediterranean or cloistered countries face serious difficulties in their access to the sea and the use of their resources. All countries have the right to use ocean space. It has been shown that landlocked countries are doubly affected; we have higher costs in importing products and our development is hampered. My country was born with sea, however, today it is a cloistered country, forced by the circumstances of the past to face multiple barriers. We hope that, sooner rather than later, dialogue and diplomacy can triumph to repair the injustices of a war driven by capitalist interests and thus build a better future between fraternal peoples."

10. Broaden our restricted view of human rights and democracy.

11. Intergenerational solidarity and universal concern for the elderly who built with their work the house of today's youth.

12. Declare the decade of depatriarchalization to combat all forms of violence against women and girls. "At the global level, we are specifically concerned about the violence suffered by impoverished indigenous women and girls. Patriarchy is the oldest system of oppression, complemented by colonialism and capitalism. We are for the construction of reciprocal relationships, for a life free from all forms of exclusion, domination, exploitation, discrimination and violence for all humanity and our Mother Earth."

13. Reject unilateral sanctions. "It is inconceivable that unilateral measures are still being applied with the aim of bending governments at the expense of the hunger and suffering of their peoples. An example is the criminal blockade that Cuba suffers from the United States and that puts the lives of millions of people at risk."

14. Fully ratify the Charter of the United Nations and the principle of multilateralism. "The Plurinational State of Bolivia and its democratic and cultural revolution, bets with optimism to overcome the current polarization of world architecture and overcome the capitalist order that has put us in a vertiginous, dangerous, unlimited race of consumerism, which puts humanity and the planet at risk."

Andrés Figueroa Cornejo for La Pluma, September 21, 2022

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